

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3118
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2002
DISBANDING OF SPECIAL OPERATION GROUP
DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per army authorities the proposed decision of new Jammu and Kashmir Government to disband the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the police will weaken counter-insurgency operations;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government has been consulted before implementation of the said decision; and
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (c): As per the Governor of J&K's address to the joint session of J&K Legislature, the J&K Government is committed to assimilate/relocate the personnel of SOG in the regular Police force so that they are subjected to the discipline law and are made accountable for their deeds. The Governor's address has also indicated that the State Government is fully alive to the legitimate security concerns of the State and intends to stand firm and steadfast in discharging its obligations under the Constitution. So far no action has been taken by State Government with regard to its proposed relocation of the SOG.

The army has indicated to Government that the counter terrorism operations being conducted by the army in J&K are unlikely to be affected by this decision and would continue as hitherto.